(b) if so, the reasons for its delay; and

(c) by when Government proposes to introduce the Bill in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Yes. The draft of the Bill on HIV/AIDS is, at present, under finalisation. However, no firm date can be indicated at this stage.

Acute shortage of vaccines

2088. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of vaccines in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to make available adequate quantity of vaccines?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There is no shortage of vaccines at present under Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) in the country. However, during the year 2008, there were some shortages of Diphtheria-Pertusis-Tetanus (DPT), Tetanus Toxoid (TT) and Diphtheria Tetanus (DT) for few months in some States due to non-fulfillment of supply commitments by manufacturers.

(c) To meet the requirement of vaccines, procurement is made from Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) as well as indigenous private sector units through a competitive bidding process.

Efficacy of pictorial warnings on cigarette packets

2089. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Mumbai-based health research organisation's recent survey report reveals that pictorial warnings on tobacco products like cigarette have proved ineffective with sales of cigarettes growing in the last two quarters;

(b) whether the habitual smokers deciphered the black and white X-ray picture of decaying lungs on cigarette packs as waterfalls between two mountains or hazy shadows of two people facing each other;

(c) whether illegal and smuggling sector has grown dramatically, not complying with pictorial warning rules apart from evading excise and VAT duties; and

(d) whether unlike India, western countries where graphic health warnings are carried on cigarettes have recorded decline on the number of tobacco users?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) and (b) A survey was conducted by Healis Seksaria Institute of Public Health, Mumbai, and published in October, 2009 concluded that the pictorial warning do not serve desired purpose since they are not properly understood.

(c) There is no such evidence available with this Ministry.

(d) The available evidence shows that countries who adopted strong pictorial warnings on tobacco products were able to show a decline in tobacco use.

Children orphaned by AIDS

2090. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children orphaned on account of spread of AIDS in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) how many of them are infected with this disease during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of budgetary and institutional support made and provided for their rehabilitation; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by Government/NGOs to protect the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) Information on number of children orphaned on account of AIDS is not available. Number of HIV infected children during the last three years, State-wise is given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(c) Under National AIDS Control Programme Phase-III (NACP-III), five Community Care Center (CCC) for children orphaned due to HIV/AIDS, have been supported for providing, care, support, food, education and health care. Grant-in-aid of Rs.21.5 lakh has been given to each of these centers. In addition, care and support services are also being provided by HIV/AIDS Alliance to 18,405 children and Clinton Foundation to nearly 28,000 children affected by HIV/AIDS in selected high prevalence districts.

(d) Following steps are being taken to protect children from HIV infection:

(i) Identification, counselling and prophylactic treatment to HIV positive pregnant women and new born babies;

(ii) Diagnosis of HIV positive children and provision of anti-retroviral drugs to those children eligible for treatment; and

(iii) Public awareness through various media regarding prevention of HIV transmission.

Statement

Number of HIV+Children reported during the last three years

Sl. No.	State	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3191	7863	11505